

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 07921 061116Z

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3322

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 7921

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, KS, JA

SUBJECT: ROK-JAPAN SUMMIT SPURS INTEREST IN PARK-CARTER SUMMIT

REF: SEOUL 7863

1. DURING DISCUSSION OF OTHER TOPICS WITH FORMIN MORNING SEPTEMBER 6, I ASKED HIM ABOUT THE ACCURACY OF PRESS REPORTS THAT FORMIN SONODA HAD BORACHED THE IDEA OF A POSSIBLE PARK-FUKUDA MEETING LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT YEAR. FORMIN CONFIRMED THAT SONODA HAD BROUGHT A LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA ON THIS TOPIC WHICH HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT PARK. HE SAID THAT WHILE IT WAS PREMATURE TO TALK OF DATES AT THIS TIME HIS PERSONAL VIEW WAS THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE MEETING THIS YEAR AND THAT NEXT SPRING WOULD VE AN APPROPRIATE TIME. THE SCENARIO WOULD CALL FOR A VISIT TO SEOUL BY PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA FOLLOWED BY A RETURN VISIT TO TOKYO BY PRESIDENT PARK. HE THEN SAID THAT HE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE A PARK-CARTER SUMMIT PRIOR TO MEETINGS WITH THE JAPANESE.

2. I COMMENTED THAT WE WOULD INDEED NEED TO TALK IN SERIOUS TERMS REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A PARK-CARTER SUMMIT. I POINTED OUT WE STILL HAD THE KIM DONG-JO ISSUE TO RESOLVE AND THAT THE FINAL OUTCOME OF THIS COULD AFFECT THE OVERALL TONE OF OUR DISCUSSION. I NOTED ALSO THAT
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THERE REMAINED CONCERN IN THE U.S. OVER HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND THAT WE HOPED EVENTS OVER THE COMING MONTHS WOULD LEAD TO BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR A SUMMIT MEETING NEXT YEAR. WE AGREED TO DISCUSS THIS IN MORE DETAIL AT A LATER DATE.
GLEYSTEN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 06 sep 1978
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